

REMARKS

Following entry of the Supplemental Reply to Office Action filed August 30, 2007, claims 1-11 were pending in this application. With this reply, claims 1-15 are pending. Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for lack of novelty over Melissaris et al. (*Eur. Polymer J.* 25:455-460, 1989; hereafter “Melissaris”). Claims 1 and 3-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kawamonzen et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,316,170; hereafter “Kawamonzen”) in view of Melissaris. Claims 1 and 3-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Machido et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,159,654; hereafter “Machido”) in view of Melissaris.

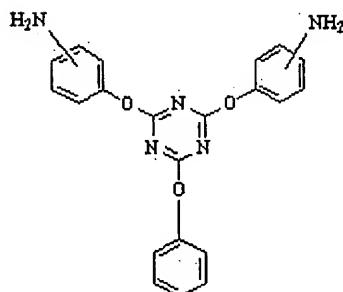
Claim Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended and new claims 12-15 have been added. Support for this amendment is found, for example, in the previously filed claims 1 and 2, and on page 3, lines 1-4, and page 4, lines 12-15 of the specification. No new matter has been added by the present amendment. Applicants reserve the right to pursue any cancelled subject matter in this or in a continuing application.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for lack of novelty over Melissaris. Applicants have addressed this rejection by amendment of claim 1 and with the following remarks.

The Office states that Melissaris discloses the following diamine structure:



which is identical to one, recited in claim 1 (Formula 1), when A is oxygen, B is oxygen, and C is a cyclic monovalent organic group.

Amended claim 1 is limited to: (1) diaminotriazines in which A (see formula I of claim 1) is an oxygen atom or a carbonyl group, B is an oxygen or a carbonyl group, and C is a branched monovalent organic group, or *a combined form of a C₁₋₃₀ linear or branched monovalent organic group and a cyclic monovalent organic group*; and (2) diaminotriazines in which A is a carbonyl group, B is a direct bond, and C is a C₁₋₃₀ linear, branched or cyclic monovalent organic group, or combination thereof. As amended, claim 1 no longer includes the diaminotriazines disclosed by Melissaris (i.e., diaminotriazine molecules having the structure of Formula 1, where A is oxygen, B is oxygen, and C is a *cyclic monovalent organic group*).

In view of the amendment to claim 1 and the remarks above, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection for lack of novelty.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1 and 3-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kawamonzen in view of Melissaris. Claims 1 and 3-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Machido in view of Melissaris. Applicants have addressed these rejections by amendment of claim 1 and with the following remarks.

Examiner states that in view of the structure disclosed by Melissaris, Kawamonzen teaches “a polyamic acid, comprising tetravalent aromatic or alicyclic group (column 13, line 45) and aromatic diamine compounds (column 14, line 35, column 16, line 50) and siloxane-based diamines;” a “dianhydride comprising a aromatic or alicyclic group or their mixture (column 14, lines 25 and 50);” and a polyamic acid with an inherent viscosity between 0.3 dl/g and 1.5 dl/g (Office Action, pg. 3-4). The Examiner further

states that Machido teaches “a polyamic solution with a liquid crystal aligning agent based on heterocyclic cycle (triazine) containing polyimide;” “a polyamic acid, comprising a tetravalent aromatic or alicyclic group and aromatic diamines compound and siloxane-based diamines;” and “a method of forming liquid crystal element layer by coating polyamic acid onto substrate and....imidizing the coating” (Office Action, pg. 4-5).

Applicants submit that Melissaris in combination with Kawamonzen and/or Machido considered alone or in combination, fail to teach the diaminotriazines of amended claim 1. As discussed *supra*, amended claim 1 no longer includes the diaminotriazine molecules taught by Melissaris (i.e., diaminotriazine molecules having the structure of Formula 1, where A is oxygen, B is oxygen, and C is a cyclic monovalent organic group). Applicants note that the limitations of claim 1 are incorporated into claims 3-11. Accordingly, claims 1 and 3-11, as amended, are directed to diaminotriazine molecules that are not taught or suggested by Melissaris and this deficiency is not remedied by Kawamonzen or Machido.

Because the prior art relied upon for these rejections fail to teach each and every limitation of claims 1 and 3-11, as amended, Applicants submit that the amended claims are not obvious over Melissaris in view of Kawamonzen and/or Machido.

In view of the amendment of claim 1 and the remarks above, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejections for obviousness.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance, and such action is hereby requested.

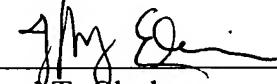
Enclosed is a Petition to extend the period for replying to the final Office Action for one month, to and including February 19, 2008, and a check in payment of the required extension fee.

Enclosed is a check for \$200.00 in payment of excess claims fees for the four dependent claims added.

If there are any additional charges or any credits, please apply them to Deposit Account No. 03-2095.

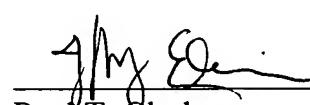
Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 19, 2008



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